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SERVICE NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The NEWS is intended to inform staff members of developments within the Service and is not for distribution to others.

Benton, Miss Mildred

January 19, 1939

ANNUAL REPORTS RELEASED

The Chief's annual report for the fiscal year 1938; and that of Robert Fechner, Director of the CCC, containing a section on the activities of camps under SCS direction, appeared in printed form last month.

Mr. Bennett's report emphasized the formation of soil conservation districts -- the new feature of the 1937-38 SCS program -- and its effect upon the operating policies of the Service.

The closer coordination of Research and demonstration activities, the increased responsibility of the Service in the field of flood control, and the expansion of SCS cooperative working relations with other agencies were additional points stressed in the report.

Mr. Fechner announced that the number of man-days worked in SCS camps during the winter months; when it has frequently been difficult to find suitable employment for enrollees, increased 20 percent during the winter of 1937-38, due to improved planning. Camp labor was also utilized more effectively during the year by lending men to other agencies which operate CCC camps, he said.

Copies of these reports may be obtained from the Publications Unit of the SCS and from Mr. Fechner's office, respectively.

DISTRICT PROGRAM CONFERENCES

On January 9, two groups of field representatives met in Washington for a fortnight's consideration of the Service's program for cooperation with soil conservation districts.

The first of these, under the chairmanship of W. F. Peel, of the Operations Division, is reviewing district programs and plans, suggesting simplified procedures for revising them, and making recommendations for a revision of the outlines for the district programs.

In this group are:

L. V. Compton, Region 8, Wildlife Section

Paul Evans, Region 9, In Charge, District Organization

A. H. Marquandt, Region 7, Erosion Control Practices Section

T. C. Maurer, Region 2, Agronomy Section

R. B. Moore, Region 4, Engineering Section

A. D. Slavin, Region 5, Nurseries Section.

Ross Williams, Region 9, Woodland Management Section.

Meeting with H. C. Diener, of the Section of Erosion Control Practices, are:

J. H. Johnson, Region 2, Assistant State Coordinator, S. C.

A. C. McIntyre, Region 1, In Charge, District Organization

W. O. Melton, Region 4, Assistant State Coordinator, Ark.

J. M. Spencer, Region 8, Erosion Control Practices Section

R. L. Von Trebra, Region 5, Erosion Control Practices Section.

This conference is reviewing district cooperative agreements; and considering future development of agreements, district mapping, plans for conservation operations, and the organization of the entire agreement procedure.

AREA ORGANIZATION

To provide more economical and efficient administration of the SCS program in the field, soil conservation areas have been established in a number of Regions, under the supervision of the Washington office.

Region 5 Illinois -- Edwardsville and LeRoy
 Iowa -- Shenandoah and Marion
 Minnesota -- Faribault
 Missouri -- Fulton and Bethany
 Wisconsin -- Independence and Fennimore

Region 7 Oklahoma -- Ardmore, Muskogee and Elk City
 Nebraska -- Lincoln
 Kansas -- Ottawa

Region 11 Oregon -- Pendleton
 Idaho -- Pocatello

GREAT PLAINS BOUNDARIES ALTERED

For the more effective management of the Service's land-use program in cooperation with Great Plains farmers, some changes will be made in regional boundaries west of the Mississippi.

Henceforth there will be but two Great Plains Regions:

The Northern Great Plains, comprising Montana, the Dakotas, Wyoming, and Nebraska, with headquarters at Lincoln, Neb. Rapid City, S. D., was formerly the seat of the Region 9 offices.

The Southern Great Plains, which includes the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles, eastern Colorado, and Kansas. Amarillo, Tex., will continue to be the headquarters of this Region.

The old Region 7 offices at Salina, Kans., will in future direct soil conservation activities of the newly formed North Central Kansas area.

✓ Oklahoma, exclusive of the Panhandle, will now become a part of Region 4, which is composed of Arkansas, Louisiana, and all but Panhandle Texas, with offices at Fort Worth, Tex.

LAND UTILIZATION PROJECTS ANNOUNCED

During the past six weeks, the Chief has announced six new land utilization projects which involve the purchase over a period of several years of some 637,000 acres of poor land.

In Yalobusha County, Mississippi, where continuous cotton cropping has impoverished the soil, the Yalobusha Project will retire severely eroded areas to woodland and pasture and develop a more diversified type of agriculture.

Two projects in Georgia -- Greene County and Lakeland Flatwoods in Lanier, Loundes, and Echols Counties -- will encourage a shift from cash crop production to a farm program which includes livestock raising and thus provides grass cover for eroded fields.

In West Virginia, the Mason Project in Mason and Jackson Counties will retire steep hillsides from cultivation; and North Carolina's Caswell County Project plans to supplement tobacco farming with dairying and timber production.

Fort Rock Project, Lake County, Oregon, will put to range use land which has proved unprofitable for dry farming.

The sum of \$386,787 has been authorized for purchase of land in the six project areas during the current fiscal year.

THE CHIEF ASSIGNED NEW DUTIES

As of January 2, the Chief has been designated by Secretary Wallace as his personal representative in charge of that part of the work of the Irrigation and Drainage Divisions of the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering which is concerned with investigations, demonstrations, and experiments in the field of farm irrigation and land drainage in their hydrologic and construction phases.

NEW ORLEANS MEETING

The Chief will speak on the part played by land utilization in the Soil Conservation Service program at the 40th Annual Convention of the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers to be held at New Orleans, La., February 1-3.

T. S. Buie, Region 2's Conservator, will preside over the soil conservation section of the meeting, and J. C. Dykes, in charge of erosion control practices at Fort Worth, Tex., will act as its secretary.

CONSERVATION CHARTS

A series of ten conservation charts has been prepared by the Visual Information Unit for distribution to schools, colleges, teachers, extension workers, and others interested in graphic presentation of

methods of erosion control. These may be procured without charge from the USDA or from the Service's field offices.

Each chart measures approximately $19\frac{1}{2}$ x $24\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and consists of six halftone photographs showing field or pasture before and after erosion control measures have been applied, with explanatory captions.

Dr. H. M. Strong, in charge of the Service's Educational Relations, feels that these charts are proving most valuable as a method of presenting the SCS program to students and farmers.

Numbers and titles of the charts:

1. Soil Erosion -- Cause and Effect
2. Contour Farming for Soil and Water Conservation
3. Strip Cropping -- An Erosion Control Practice
4. Terraces for Erosion Control
5. Cover Crops Protect Soil
6. Gully Control
7. Saving Soil and Water on Pasture Lands
8. Trees and Shrubs for Erosion Control
9. Wildlife -- A Safe Use for Erodible Land
10. Farm Ponds.

RADIO NOTE

The January schedule for the SCS's part in the National Farm and Home Program is as follows:

- January 6 -- A description of a typical land-use project by John Dreier, of the Section of Information.
- January 13 -- An analysis of the Service's work in Puerto Rico by M. M. Tozier, of the same Section.
- January 27 -- A discussion of the new Farmers' Bulletin, "Soil Defense in the South," by Josephine Hemphill, of the USDA Radio Service, and Mr. Tozier.

The Service's time on this program has been shifted from Tuesday to Friday, at approximately 1:00 P. M., E. S. T.

NEW FILM STRIP RELEASED

"Soil Erosion -- Whose Problem?" is the title of the latest film strip (No. 523 -- 51 frames) to be released by the Visual Information Unit.

Originating in the Region 5 office at Des Moines, Iowa, the strip shows the cooperative attack on the erosion problem being made by landowners in that Region.

SOIL CONSERVATION AS A HEALTH MEASURE

At a meeting of the Northeast Georgia Health and Conservation Association held at Atlanta last month, J. Phil Campbell, Chief of the Cooperative Relations Division, spoke on the role played by soil conservation and flood control in the prevention of malaria.

Following other speakers who stressed the fact that it was useless to inaugurate major drainage operations until soil erosion had been checked, Mr. Campbell said that farmers in upstream areas should be given constructive plans for halting soil wastage and improving their farms.

The public has a responsibility to assist landowners who are unable to pay the full cost of such operations, he continued, adding that submarginal lands could be purchased by the Government and used for streamside plantings.

RICHMOND EXHIBIT

An exhibit was prepared by the Region 2 Information Section at Spartanburg, S. C., for display at the Richmond, Va., meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, December 27-31, at the request of the Extension Service.

The exhibit consisted of a series of eight transparencies in a center panel, showing conservation farming practices in the Southeast, flanked by side panels presenting experiment station data and photographs on soil and water losses.

DR. WINTERS SAILS

N. E. Winters, in charge of the Service's work in Hawaii, will sail for the Islands on January 26 with a small office force to establish headquarters in Honolulu.

Dr. Winters spent several months in Hawaii last year, making surveys and drawing up plans for the projects to be initiated there; and later studied SCS work in Puerto Rico in preparation for the development of this new insular conservation program.

HEADS MONOGRAPH COMMITTEE

Wellington Brink, editor of the magazine "Soil Conservation," has been appointed chairman of the Monograph Committee to succeed H. H. Collins, Jr., who has left the Service to go with the Wage and Hour Division of the Labor Department.

Organized to formulate a policy for the preparation and publication of monographs descriptive of the work accomplished on SCS projects, the committee is composed of the following members:

D. H. Allred, Section of Cooperative Planning
 G. A. Barnes, Section of Information
 R. H. Davis, Section of Flood Control Surveys
 H. C. Diener, Section of Erosion Control Practices
 Samuel Goodacre, Division of Administration
 V. H. Hougen, Section of Erosion Control Practices
 W. F. Peel, Division of Conservation Operations
 G. R. Stewart, Division of Research

DR. BAKER'S DEATH

Word has been received of the death at New Brunswick on January 6 of Dr. H. J. Baker, Director of Extension for the State of New Jersey.

Dr. Baker went to the Extension Service in 1914; and since 1923 has been in charge of the New Brunswick office, where he was well known to SCS personnel who work in cooperation with State agencies in New Jersey.

POPULAR BOOKS

Mildred C. Benton, SCS Librarian, lists the following books in the Service Library as the most widely read during 1938:

Cox, J. F., and Jackson, L. E., "Crop Management and Soil Conservation"

Finch, V. C., "Elements of Geography"

MacLeish, Archibald, "Land of the Free"

Reifenberg, A., "The Soils of Palestine"; "Studies in Soil Formation and Land Utilization in the Mediterranean"

Stebbing, E. P., "The Threat of the Sahara"

Tolman, C. F., "Ground Water"

White, Trumbull, "Puerto Rico and Its People"

Woolridge, S. W., and Morgan, R. S., "Physical Basis of Geography."

Miss Benton suggests that Service members wishing to read any of these books notify the library.

NOTES

A. G. McCall, of the Division of Research, left late in December for the Pacific coast, where he will spend some time at the regional office in Santa Paula and at the California State Experiment Station for the purpose of making a study of the irrigation problems of Region 10.

As a result of recent departmental reorganizations, the Soil Conservation Service will take over certain responsibilities in connection with the irrigation investigations of the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering. Plans for the continuation of work are being developed in cooperation with the Bureau of Plant Industry and the State Experiment Station.

The meeting of the American Farm Economics Association held at Detroit, Mich., December 28-30, was attended by H. O. Anderson, D. H. Walters, E. C. Weitzell, A. C. Bunce, and W. J. Roth of the Economic Research Section.

R. G. Davis, of the Storrs, Conn., Experiment Station, one of the Service's active cooperators, was elected President of the Association for the coming year. The meeting in December, 1939, will be held at Philadelphia, Pa., according to advance reports.

Emil Rauchenstein, of the Division of Farm Management, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, E. H. Reed, of the Division of Conservation Operations, A. E. Brandt, mathematical analyst, Division of Research, and W. J. Roth, of the Economic Research Section, visited the Agricultural Experiment Station at Storrs, Conn., last month. The work of the Economic Research Section in cooperation with the

Station was reviewed in detail, and plans for further efforts in this field were discussed with Director Slate and Station personnel.

Neil Johnson, of the Division of Farm Management and Costs of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, accompanied W. J. Roth, of the Economic Research Section, to State College, Penn., early last month, to review the economic research under way there in cooperation with the State Agricultural Experiment Station. D. H. Walter, assistant agricultural economist of the Economic Research Section, and J. L. E. McCord, of the Pennsylvania State College, participated in the discussion.

R. E. Uhland, liaison officer, and A. E. Brandt, statistical analyst, both of the Research Division, visited the Experiment Station at Dixon Springs, Ill., last week, to go over the layouts of experiments now under way and those in prospect. At Urbana, they reviewed with State personnel the various phases of evaluation surveys now being considered for Illinois.

To discuss surveys planned in connection with the determining of the economic and sociologic implications of the soil conservation program, E. H. Reed, Division of Operations, and W. J. Roth and A. E. Brandt, of the Research Division, last month met with State agency representatives at Hartford, Conn., and at Amarillo, Tex.

The coordination of Extension and action programs in physical land-use adjustment will be discussed by J. Phil Campbell, Chief of the Division of Cooperative Relations, at an Extension Conference to be held January 25-26 at the State College of Agriculture, State College, N. M.

A. E. Brandt, statistical analyst, Division of Research, attended the meeting of the American Statistical Association at Detroit, Mich., December 27-30.

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RELOCATION OF REGIONAL OFFICES

So that SCS regional headquarters may coincide with those of its newly acquired Land Utilization Division, and be more accessible to those of the Biological Survey, Forest Service, and other Bureaus working in cooperation with the Service, the Department of Agriculture has authorized the following changes:

The Region 2 (Southeast) offices will be moved from Spartanburg, S. C., to Atlanta, Ga., and Spartanburg will become the headquarters of the northwestern South Carolina conservation area.

In the Upper Mississippi Valley (Region 5), Milwaukee, Wis., will replace Des Moines, Iowa, as the Service's headquarters.

The Santa Paula, Calif., regional office will become an area office for southern California; and a new regional office for the Pacific Southwest (Region 10) will be set up in San Francisco.

CHIEF'S MEMORANDUM

In a recent memorandum, the Chief suggests that all SCS staff members read an address made by Under Secretary of Agriculture M. L. Wilson before a meeting of the Texas Agricultural Workers Association at Fort Worth on January 13.

"It is," Mr. Bennett states, "an excellent statement of the structure, functions, and objectives of the new Department of Agriculture . . . [and] should give all of us a clear perspective and a better knowledge of the aims of the organization of which we are a part."

Copies of the talk may be obtained from Division Chiefs, Section Heads, and Regional Conservators of the Service.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENTS

New Service-connected developments in the USDA'S program for conserving the nation's land and water include the following:

1. Approval of the purchase, over a period of years, of 10,000 acres of submarginal farmland in the Muskingum Valley of Ohio, to be known as the Mohican Land Utilization Project.

The farmers in this area will be encouraged to substitute livestock farming for the cash-crop cultivation which is responsible for the present condition of the land. Pastures will be developed on the purchased lands and made available to local farmers, while steeper slopes will be reforested. This is part of the Service's land utilization work.

2. Establishment of a new 64,000-acre water facilities area in Placer County, Calif., where pipe lines and grade ditches will be installed to handle irrigation water more effectively and economically in this orchard and livestock country. Construction and installation work will be supervised by the SCS.

3. Under a cooperative and licensing agreement, turning over to the University System of Georgia 13,000 acres of submarginal land in Putnam County, to be used for research, experiment, and demonstration of land improvement, chiefly in the field of pasture improvement, forestry, and wildlife conservation. This is part of the land purchase and development program administered by the Service. In South Carolina, 26,000 acres of submarginal land in the same category will be administered by the State Forest Commission under a similar agreement.

SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS ATTENDED

Among SCS staff members who attended meetings of scientific societies during the latter part of December were the following:

G. C. Dobson, Head of the Section of Sedimentation Studies, read before the Limnological Society of America meeting in Richmond, Va., a paper on "Underflows of Sediment-Laden Water in Reservoirs." Mr. Dobson used a motion picture of laboratory experiments made with models in cooperation with the California Institute of Technology to illustrate his paper.

"The History of Erosion in the Ancient World" was the subject of a paper read by Lois Olson, of the Climatic and Physiographic Research Section, before the thirty-fifth annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers at Cambridge, Mass.

The same meeting was attended by C. E. Ramser and H. C. Murto of the Section of Watershed and Hydrologic Studies. Mr. Ramser, Head of the Section, spoke on "Research Studies in Hydrology with Special Reference to Soil Conservation and Flood Control"; and put on display a group of charts and photographs descriptive of the Service's hydrologic activities and certain of the recording instruments used.

The American Phytopathologic Society, which met at Richmond, Va., heard papers by T. J. Grant, of the Section of Hillculture Studies, in cooperation with the Bureau of Plant Industry, on "A Study of Witches'-Broom, a Virus Disease of Black Locust, in Relation to Its Importance to Virus-Resistant Strains of Black Locust"; and by V. T. Stoutmyer, of the BPI, in cooperation with the Hillculture Section, on "Talc as a Carrier of Substances Inducing Root Formation in Softwood Cuttings."

The Section of Sedimentation Studies was represented at the meeting of the Geological Society of America in New York City by Geologists C. B. Brown, E. M. Flaxman, and L. C. Gottschalk.

The American Meteorological Society, which met at Richmond, Va., heard Benjamin Holzman, of the Climatic and Physiographic Section, read a paper on "The Determination of Evaporation from Land Surfaces," of which C. W. Thornthwaite, Head of the Section, was joint author.

Helen M. Strong, in charge of the Service's educational relations, attended the Boston, Mass., meeting of the National Council of Geography Teachers, and discussed a paper on "The Teaching of Conservation of Natural Resources." The Region 1 Information office sent photographs and before-and-after models for display at the meeting, and SCS bulletins were available for distribution.

RESERVOIR STUDIES

A. N. Garin, of the Section of Economic Research, has recently returned from Raleigh, N. C., where he went with W. J. Roth, Head of the Section, to meet with G. W. Forster and M. T. Matthews, of the North Carolina Experiment Station, and S. W. Atkins, a member of the Economic Research staff stationed there.

The economics of reservoir siltation, and a manuscript in preparation by Dr. Garin, covering his study of a number of reservoirs in

the Piedmont area of North Carolina (made in conjunction with the Section of Sedimentation Studies), were the topics of discussion.

Investigations have revealed that municipal water supply reservoirs in North Carolina are silting up at a rapid rate; and that cities and towns are not only losing storage space but also paying large annual bills for purifying water which has been muddied by run-off from farm fields.

On the other hand, those reservoirs which draw their water from forested areas contain little or no silt, and consequently are less expensive to maintain.

Dr. Garin's studies show that soil conservation methods applied to farms on watersheds draining into municipal reservoirs are therefore of public as well as of private interest.

DISTRICT PROGRAM MEETING

The Federal Extension Service and the SCS have joined in bringing a group of men from the field to work out cooperative relations with the districts and to facilitate district work. I. L. Hobson, Head of the Section of Cooperative Relations in Extension, has been in charge of the fortnight's meetings.

From the Extension Service came:

T. G. Stewart, Regions 6 and 8
L. N. Brown, Region 10
Edd Roberts, Region 4
M. A. Thorfinnson, Region 5.

The SCS was represented by the following State Coordinators:

G. K. Fletcher, Louisiana
E. C. Sackrider, Michigan
H. E. Engstrom, Nebraska
J. G. Liddell, Georgia.

EDUCATION IN SOIL CONSERVATION

Interest of the nation's educators in soil conservation is expanding to include the teaching of its importance to American women, to the permanent home, and to the urban population, according to Helon M. Strong, in charge of the Service's educational relations.

Dr. Strong has recently returned from a two weeks' field trip, during which she addressed groups of teachers and agricultural workers, and

met in conference with school and college heads and superintendents of State and city schools.

At the general session of the Texas Agricultural Workers Association at Fort Worth, attended by some 800 Extension people and vocational agriculture teachers, she spoke on "The Woman's Part in Soil Conservation," bringing out the point that more than 900,000 American women own, manage, or work on farms, and that a far larger group live on the country's 6,000,000 farms and contribute to their economy.

Her topic before the Home Economics Division of the Association was "Soil Conservation and the Permanent Home" (the importance of holding and improving the land rather than wasting and eventually abandoning it), a subject of interest to home demonstration agents of the Extension Service, whose work is with farm women.

As an outgrowth of the course in conservation given last summer at the North Texas State Teachers College, all the State's teachers colleges and some others will give similar courses this year, Dr. Strong says, the regional and areal offices of the Service providing speakers on special topics.

After addressing the Texas Geographical Society at Dallas, Dr. Strong went to Illinois to confer with the science faculty of the Oak Park-River Forest High School. This school, which has an enrollment of 4,000, is planning to integrate soil conservation into its physics, biology, geography, and geology courses, emphasizing the dependence of a large city like Chicago on the outlying farm communities, and the necessity for maintaining soil fertility to insure a stable food supply.

At Appleton, Wis., Superintendent of Schools B. J. Rohan told Dr. Strong that the city's elementary and high schools were making soil conservation a part of their natural and social science courses; and at Springfield, Ill., State School Superintendent J. A. Wieland informed her that the curriculum revision now in process would provide for a similar integration. Dean T. E. Benner, of the College of Education of the University of Illinois at Urbana, where the chief emphasis is on graduate work and the training of principals, supervisors, and other administrative officers, also expressed an interest in having soil conservation made a part of the curriculum.

SCS WORK IN PUERTO RICO

W. F. Peel, of the Operations Division, and G. W. Musgrave, Head of the Experiment Station Section, will sail from New York February 2

for Puerto Rico, where they will review the operations program now under way, and confer with the staff on future operations work.

Due to the densely populated condition of the island, Puerto Rican farmers have cultivated hillsides with as much as an 85-percent slope, with resultant washing and gullying of their fields. Their measures to remedy this situation proved temporary, at the least; and a few years ago the Soil Conservation Service began a number of erosion-control tests in cooperation with the experiment stations there.

Later, practical demonstrations of soil saving were instituted, the Puerto Rican Reconstruction Administration working with the Service. One control measure which has proved particularly effective is bench terracing, or the construction of a series of large, flat steps down a steep slope. These are inexpensive, since they can be built up by planting a row of forage grasses with stiff, upright stalks behind which soil can accumulate.

G. L. Crawford is in charge of the Service's work in Puerto Rico, with headquarters in Mayaguez. The Operations Division furnishes technical assistance to the Puerto Rican Reconstruction Administration in resettlement areas well distributed over the island. Thus demonstrations are carried forward on the major types of soil and of crop production -- coffee, sugar, tobacco, and mixed crops.

Research is conducted cooperatively with the Puerto Rico Agricultural Experiment Station at Mayaguez, where R. L. Davis is stationed; and with the Insular Experiment Station at Rio Piedras, headquarters of H. W. Alberts.

USDA GRADUATE SCHOOL

Announced for the second semester of the Graduate School, which begins January 30, are the following courses given by Service members:

Meteorology and Climatology, by C. W. Thornthwaite, Head of the Section of Climatic and Physiographic Research, for graduate and advanced undergraduate students.

The class will consider problems of agriculture, hydrology, soil conservation, land forms, and human settlement in its relation to climatic or meteorologic conditions.

Dictionary Study, an undergraduate English course, by Sallie M. Pease, of the Section of Mails and Files.

*San Juan
S. Barnes
3/30*

Organized to develop among its members a more intelligent use of the dictionary, Mrs. Pease's class will study pronunciation, accent, etymology, definitions, synonyms and antonyms, idiomatic phrases, and other points essential to a meticulous use of the English language.

Visual Information, by Paul Bissell, in charge of Information for the CCC Section, for graduates and advanced undergraduates.

This course will assist the Information specialist in determining the most effective methods of presenting his material to the public; and will include instruction concerning layout, posters, commercial art illustration, and roughs and dummies.

Statistical Treatment of Experiments in the Plant and Animal Industries, the course begun November 22 by A. E. Brandt, statistical analyst, Division of Research, will continue until some time in March.

The current catalog carries advance notice of an undergraduate course in Soil Conservation to be offered next fall by J. A. Bonsteel, of the Conservation Surveys Section.

The class will have three weekly meetings, two of them lectures by Dr. Bonsteel or by specialists drawn from different Sections of the Service, the third a seminar for discussion of lecture material and collateral reading. Field trips will substitute for the seminar at various times during the fall and spring.

SERVICE TRAINING COMMITTEE

To meet the recognized need for systematized training work throughout the Service, the Chief has designated the following to act as a Training Committee:

F. J. Hopkins, Chairman, Chief, Administration Division
 H. D. Abbot, Head, CCC Section
 H. L. Buckardt, Chief Training Officer
 J. P. Campbell, Chief, Cooperative Relations Division
 C. B. Manifold, Chief, Operations Division
 M. L. Nichols, Chief (Acting), Research Division
 A. L. Patrick, Chief, Surveys Division
 W. M. Russell, In Charge, Land Development Division

The Committee, which will help with the organizing and carrying out of the Service's training program and policy, will hold its first meeting at an early date.

NEW PUBLICATION

"Soil Erosion in the Karst Lands of Kentucky" is the title of a new publication issued as SCS Circular No. 490, and written by S. N. Dicken and H. B. Brown, of the Section of Climatic and Physiographic Research.

"Karst" is the name given to topography characterized by surface depressions resulting from underground drainage, and is peculiar to regions where soluble limestone forms the bedrock. The authors discuss the difficulty of applying ordinary erosion-control measures to karst lands, and suggest ways in which the farmer can best utilize them.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH MEETING

On February 1, a number of Economic Research staff members will come to Washington for a group discussion of economic research technique. With them will meet representatives of the BAE and of both the Research and the Operations Divisions of the Service.

RADIO NOTE

On February 9, the Service will be allotted 15 minutes on the National Farm and Home Program. Beginning at 12:45 P.M., E.S.T., W. L. Baynes, Indiana State Coordinator; Ewing Jones, of the Dayton, Ohio, Information Office; and Carr Lenz, a farmer from Clark County, Indiana, will go on the air in Chicago, Ill., to discuss the Corn Belt.

LIBRARY NOTE

See Report
The Library calls special attention to an important magazine article which appears in the Journal of Economic Entomology for February 1938. It is entitled "Entomology in Relation to Soil Conservation." All who have read the article highly recommend it.

NOTES

On his way from the Pacific Coast, A. G. McCall, Division of Research, stopped at Tucson, Ariz., and Albuquerque, N. Mex., for a brief inspection of research projects under way. He reports that the laboratory formerly located at Safford, Ariz., is being moved to Tucson, where it will be consolidated with that of the State Agricultural Experiment Station located there. The laboratory at Mexican Springs is well equipped to handle the investigational work being done in New Mexico.

The January number of "Agricultural Engineering," official organ of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, contains an article by Dr. W. C. Lowdermilk, Chief of the Research Division, on "Flood Control in Soil Conservation," in which he discusses the value in the flood control program of soil-saving methods at points of precipitation and initial run-off.

A. E. Brandt, statistical analyst, Division of Research, was in Ithaca, N. Y., last week; working with John Lamb, in charge of the Experiment Station there, on data from previous experiments made with vineyards which will be used as a basis for further research along this line.

H. C. Dorny, of Des Moines, Iowa; J. W. Abney, Spartanburg, S. C.; and F. B. Samuell, Dayton, Ohio, were in the Washington office last week, assisting G. G. Smith, Head of the Fiscal Section, in the preparation of a uniform organization chart for the regional fiscal offices.

H. B. Fry, of Des Moines, Iowa, will be transferred to the Washington Fiscal office February 1, where he will act as Assistant to the Chief Fiscal Officer. Wayne Hisle, who formerly held this position, has transferred to the Office of Budget and Accounts of the Department.

W. J. Roth, Head of the Economic Research Section, was in Columbus, Ohio, last week conferring with J. I. Falconer, of Ohio State University, and regional personnel on plans for evaluating economic records secured in the Salt Creek demonstration area.

With H. R. Tolley, L. C. Gray, and M. M. Kelso, of the BAE, A. L. Patrick, Chief of the Division of Watershed and Conservation Surveys, last week attended a meeting of the Flood Control Coordinating Committee held at Somerset, Pa.

Inspection trips to Upper Darby, Pa., and Dayton, Ohio, were made this month by Washington Fiscal personnel, Hugh Martin and R. L. Geiger visiting the former regional office, and Charles Farris and R. G. Irwin the latter.

W. L. Simmons, soil technician formerly on the SCS staff in Puerto Rico, recently spent several days in the Washington office receiving preliminary instructions for surveys to be made in Hawaii, where he will in future be stationed.

N. R. Bear, of the Operations Division, spent the week of January 16 at Salina, Kans., in connection with the revision of regional boundaries in the Great Plains.
